IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS:	Jamie Callan	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. P99,0600
SERIAL NO.	08/912,757	GROUP ART UNIT: 2771
FILING DATE:	August 18, 1997	EXAMINER: T. Havan
INVENTION:	"SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR FILTERING A DOCUMENT STREAM"	

AMENDMENT "B"

Hon. Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R:

This amendment is filed in response to the Office Action of August 2, 1999. Please reconsider the application in view of the amendment and remarks presented below.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.   (Twice Amended) An apparatus for filtering documents as received, the apparatus comprising:

a document parser, said document parser accepting a document as input as it is received and providing an inverted list of terms contained in the document as output;

a profile parser, the profile parser accepting a user query comprised of terms and operators as input and providing a query net representing a parsed user query as output; and

a comparator that compares the inverted list for an incoming document against the query net representing the parsed query and providing as output an indication whether the incoming document matches the parsed query,

wherein,

the apparatus is programmed to filter documents using recursive statistical inference in which numerical weights assigned respectively to the query terms are combined as dictated by the query operators and in which evaluation of one level of a query tree pauses while evaluation of another lower level proceeds.

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